Bureau of Land Management 220 E. Market Street • Meeker, Colorado 81641
BLM WHITE RIVER NEWS

# White River RMP Oil and Gas Amendment
# FACT SHEET: Air Quality

## What steps are being proposed to mitigate potential air impacts from oil and gas development within the White River Field Office?

Alternatives B, C, and D require more stringent air quality controls than what is currently in place (Alternative A). Alternatives B and D are the most stringent. Table 2-1 details air quality measures by alternative. BLM has developed a detailed Air Resources Management Plan, detailed in Appendix J.

A variety of control techniques are required to reduce fugitive dust and pollutant emissions (e.g. carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, greenhouse gases):

- State-of-the-art emission controls are required under B, C and D that achieve very large reductions in emissions, such as green completion technology.

- Under B and D, the latest technology in clean-burning, diesel engines (EPA Non-road Tier 4) would be required for all new and existing drill rig and frac-pump engines within one year of the final Record of Decision.

- Under Alternative D, at least 50 percent of gas compression at compressor stations would be powered by electric motors. Other Alternatives have no similar requirement.

BLM will expand air quality monitoring within the Field Office in coordination with other agencies and industry, particularly for ozone, using the two new air quality monitors established in Meeker and in Rangely. Additional protection measures may be implemented to meet emission standards based upon future modeling. BLM will conduct an annual review of emissions associated with oil and gas development in this area.

## What impacts to air are projected?

BLM's air modeling analysis looks at the maximum impacts from the maximum number of wells assumed per alternative.

The results of the air quality monitoring analysis indicate that air quality impacts associated with the project are below all national and state standards for all pollutants measured for all alternatives. The modeling does indicate some visibility impacts.

- Alternative A analyzes the fewest wells and had the lowest impacts overall. It had the highest impacts for particulate matter because it includes the least stringent controls for fugitive dust and drill rig engines.

- Alternative B had the second lowest impact levels, and the lowest for particulate matter.

- Alternative C had the highest predicted impacts. It analyzes fewer wells than Alternative D, but incorporates less stringent air quality measures.

- Alternative D analyzes the most wells. Its predicted impacts are higher than Alternatives A and B but lower than Alternative C for most criteria due to the increased emission controls prescribed for this alternative.